

**ABSTRACT**

The present invention provides a process for removing metals from aqueous solutions. This process entails contacting the aqueous solution with at least one neutralizing agent and at least one precipitating agent that preferentially precipitates metals from the aqueous solution. The neutralizing agent is a lithic material that neutralizes the acidity of the aqueous solution to promote the precipitation of metals from the aqueous solution. The precipitating agent is a lithic material that serves as a preferred locus of deposition for the metals precipitated by the neutralizing agent, i.e. those metals precipitated from the aqueous solution during neutralization.

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